

F.I.G.H.T. – Principle “T”

VARIOUS SCRIPTURES

Week of November 11, 2012

Message 5

Review:

- **Figure it out** — *Before I fight, I'll do some figuring first.*
- **Inspect yourself** — *I'll deal with me (my desires & my stories) before I deal with them.*
- **Graciously get it all out** — *All my truth and all God's love is all they'll get from me.*
- **Handle with care** — *My safety comes from God; theirs comes from me.*
- **Take ownership** — *Reconciliation has been given to me, so I own it (as a core value).*

Have you had any difficult conversations since we started this series? How have they gone for you?

What do these passages teach about conflict resolution?

Luke 6:27-36 p. 720

Colossians 1:21-22

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

God's model of reconciliation and his commands to us are “one-sided” meaning that we are responsible only for how *we* live and not how others respond. What do you think of that statement that God's commands are always one-sided?

Since God is our model of reconciliation, and since his example and his commands are both “one-sided” the “T” principle is “Take Ownership.” In any conflict, we need to “take ownership” of at least three things:

“I own what brought us to this point.”
What does that concept mean to you?

The conflict we have with God comes from his standards being too high for us, but he owns his part by working in Christ to lift us up. How many of your conflicts arise from your own high standards? What would it mean to invest in lifting others up?

“I own the process of reconciliation.”
What does this concept mean to you?

Are there any people you have given up on? Are there any conversations you are avoiding?

“Reconciliation requires that we each own our future.”

When it comes to God, the process of reconciliation requires us to “own” our eternal future, by receiving Christ and giving our lives to him. What kind(s) of ownership is/are required when you have a conflict with another person?

Concluding Thoughts

As you think of the entire issue of conflict resolution and crucial conversations, what difference does it make to have a strong relationship with Christ?

What are your key takeaways from this series of messages?

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